

Message Text

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54

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 XMB-07 MC-02 TRSE-00

FRB-02 OPIC-12 RSR-01 /091 W
----- 055657

R 291345 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1327

INFO FAA BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 3598

DEPARTMENT PASS COMMERCE AND EXIMBANK

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, XF

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: TMA REEQUIPMENT AND LINES OF DEVELOPMENT

REF: BEIRUT 0870

TIQM MUNIR ABU- HAIDAR, TMA PRESIDENT, INFORMS EMBASSY
THAT AUDITED BOTTBO- LINE NET PROFIT FOR 1972 IS 12.9
MILLION LEBANESE POUNDS (\$4.8 MILLION U. S.), WITH FORECAST
FOR 1973 OF 17.0 MILLION LEBANESE POUNDS (\$6.3 MILLION
U. S.).

2. TMA PRESENTLY OPERATES A FLEET OF FIVE 707-327 C' S
AND FOUR DC-6 A/ B' S (ONE DC-6 A/ B WAS SOLD TO A MIAMI BROKER
EARLIER THIS YEAR). THREE OF THE 707-327 C' S ARE LEASED
FROM BRANIFF, WHILE TWO WERE PURCHASED FROM THE SAME
U. S. CARRIER. VERY RECENTLY, TMA AND BRANIFF SIGNED A
RESTRUCTURED LEASING AGREEMENT WHICH PROVIDES FOR:
A) EXTENDING LEASES OF THE THREE 707-327 C' S BEYOND JULY
1, 1973 FOR A PERIOD OF SEVEN YEARS; B) LEASE OF AN AD-
DITIONAL 707-327 C TO TMA (TO BE DELIVERED BEIRUT SEPTEMBER
1, 1973) FOR A PERIOD OF SEVEN YEARS.

3. ADDITIONALLY, TMA IS NEGOTIATING WITH AMERICAN AIR-
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LINES FOR THE PURCHASE- ACQUISITION OF A USED 707-323 C,
VALUED AT \$6.0 MILLION U. S., FOR DELIVERY JULY, 1973.
IF THIS NEGOTIATION IS SUCCESSFUL, THE LEBANESE ALL- CARGO
CARRIER WILL, AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, OPERATE A SEVEN- AIRCRAFT
JET FREIGHTER FLEET OF FOUR LEASED 707-327 C' S, TWO OWNED
707-327 C' S, AND ONE OWNED 707-323 C. BY YEAR- END 1973,
TMA' S DC-6 A/ B FLEET WILL BE DOWN TO TWO AIRCRAFT.

4. WITH REGARD WIDEBODIED ACQUISITIONS, SHORT- TERM
DETERRENT IS AVAILABLE FINANCING AND PRESENT MAY 1976
TERMINATION DATE (TO BE RENEGOTIATED IN 1975) OF TMA' S
U. S. ROUTES. NEVERTHELESS, TMA STILL FORECASTING WIDE-
BODIED FLEET OF EIGHT AIRCRAFT, PROBABLY DC-10-30 AF' S,
BY 1980.
BUFFUM

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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